



United Nations



# TIME TO DELIVER



## Third UN High-level Meeting on Non-communicable Diseases



**27 SEPTEMBER  
2018  
New York**



## THE REASON TO DELIVER

Seven in 10 people worldwide die from cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes and chronic lung diseases – non-communicable diseases (NCDs) – or 41 million people on average annually. This includes 15 million people dying from a NCD between the ages of 30 and 69 years; more than 85% of these “premature” deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries. Hundreds of millions of people are affected by mental, neurological and substance use disorders – including depression, alcohol dependence, anxiety disorders, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia and dementia. Annually, nearly 800 000 people die from suicide.

The development and economic challenges posed by NCDs and mental health conditions are devastating in their own right: over the next 15 years the human and economic costs of NCDs are projected to total more than US \$7 trillion in developing countries alone.

The magnitude of the threat posed by NCDs and mental health conditions is great. It is for this reason that world leaders, governments and stakeholders across all sectors of society are viewing the Third United Nations General Assembly High-level Meeting on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases as a turning point in the global fight against NCDs and promotion of mental health and well-being. The meeting represents a unique opportunity to scale up action to prevent suffering and avoidable deaths from NCDs.

By implementing cost-effective and life-saving actions, all countries can make progress in promoting the health of their citizens, reducing poverty and inequities and taking meaningful steps to ensure health for all.



## PURPOSE AND PROCESS OF THE HIGH-LEVEL MEETING

The Third UN High-level Meeting on NCDs, on 27 September 2018 during the third day of general debate, will be hosted by the President of the 73rd session of the General Assembly.

**The purpose** of the meeting is to allow Heads of State and Government to conduct a comprehensive review of the progress achieved in reducing the risk of dying prematurely from NCDs, as agreed at the First High-level Meeting in 2011 and reaffirmed at the Second High-level Meeting in 2014.

**The theme of the meeting** is “Scaling up multi-stakeholder and multisectoral responses for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”.

**The two previous meetings** resulted in a number of national commitments for implementation in 2015 and 2016 to reduce risks for developing NCDs, provide better care for people living with NCDs, and track trends and progress in the fight against NCDs.

# UN HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS ON NCDs AT A GLANCE

## 2011: First UN High-level Meeting on NCDs

- 34 Heads of State and Government attended
- Only the second time a health issue had been brought to the highest level at the UN (after HIV/AIDS in 2001)
- Outcome document: Political declaration on NCDs

## 2014: Second UN High-level Meeting on NCDs

- Outcome document on the comprehensive review and assessment of progress achieved in the prevention and control of NCDs
- Included four time-bound commitments

## Four time-bound commitments included in the 2014 UN Outcome Document on NCDs

by  
2015

*Consider setting national NCD targets for 2025*

by  
2015

*Consider developing national multisectoral policies and plans to achieve the national targets by 2025*

by  
2016

*Reduce risk factors for NCDs, building on guidance set out in the WHO Global NCD Action Plan*

by  
2016

*Strengthen health systems to address NCDs through people-centred primary health care and universal health coverage, building on guidance set out in WHO Global NCD Action Plan*



Further, in the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**, with its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Heads of State and Government made a bold commitment in SDG target 3.4—to reduce, by 2030, premature mortality from non-communicable diseases by one-third, through prevention and treatment and the promotion of mental health and well-being.

# WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Turning the tide on NCDs and ensuring all people can attain the highest level of health can be achieved only through committed leadership from the highest levels of national governments.

But for action to be undertaken and results to be sustained, many other players must undertake coordinated steps.

For these reasons, the Third High-level Meeting on NCDs requires attendance and support from multiple sectors, including:

- **Heads of State and Government**
- **Parliamentarians**
- **Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Finance and Health**
- **Heads or senior representatives of relevant United Nations entities, civil society, the private sector, philanthropic foundations, academia, medical associations, indigenous leadership and community organizations**

The participation of other sectors in the High-Level Meeting and the UN Interactive Hearing on NCDs, held on 5 July 2018 in New York, have been important parts of the collaborative nature of this process.

# STRUCTURE OF THE THIRD HIGH-LEVEL MEETING

<b>10.00 – 11.00</b>	<b>Opening segment (Conference room 4)</b>	
<b>11.00 – 13.00</b>	<b>Plenary (Conference room 4)</b>	<b>Multi-stakeholder panel 1 (Trusteeship Council Chamber)</b>
<b>15.00 – 17.00</b>	<b>Plenary (Conference room 4)</b>	<b>Multi-stakeholder panel 2 (Trusteeship Council Chamber)</b>
<b>17.00 – 17.30</b>	<b>Plenary (Conference room 4)</b>	
<b>17.30 – 18.00</b>	<b>Closing segment (Conference room 4)</b>	

- **The opening segment** will feature statements by the President of the General Assembly, the United Nations Secretary-General, the Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO), a member of the WHO Independent High-level Commission on NCDs, and an eminent champion of the fight against NCDs.

- **Two plenary segments** will comprise statements by Member States and observers of the General Assembly; the time limits for these statements will be three minutes for individual delegations and five minutes for statements made on behalf of a group of States.

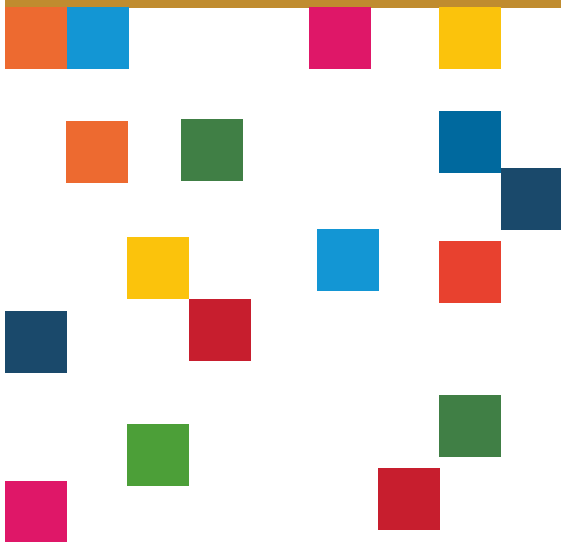
Each of the **two multi-stakeholder panels** will be co-chaired by two representatives from among the Heads of State and Government attending.

- **The multi-stakeholder Panel 1 will address the theme of** strengthening health systems and financing for the prevention and control of NCDs, on each country’s path towards achieving universal health coverage, including through sharing evidence-based best practices, scientific knowledge and lessons learned.

- **The multi-stakeholder Panel 2 will address the theme of** opportunities and challenges in engaging governments, civil society and the private sector at global, regional and national levels to promote multisectoral partnerships for the prevention and control of NCDs and the promotion of healthy lifestyles.

- **The closing segment** will comprise summaries of the multi-stakeholder panels and concluding remarks by the President of the General Assembly.

# HOW TO PARTICIPATE?



**Two plenaries** will provide a platform for world leaders to disseminate lessons learned and highlight successful national approaches.

## Two multi-stakeholder panels

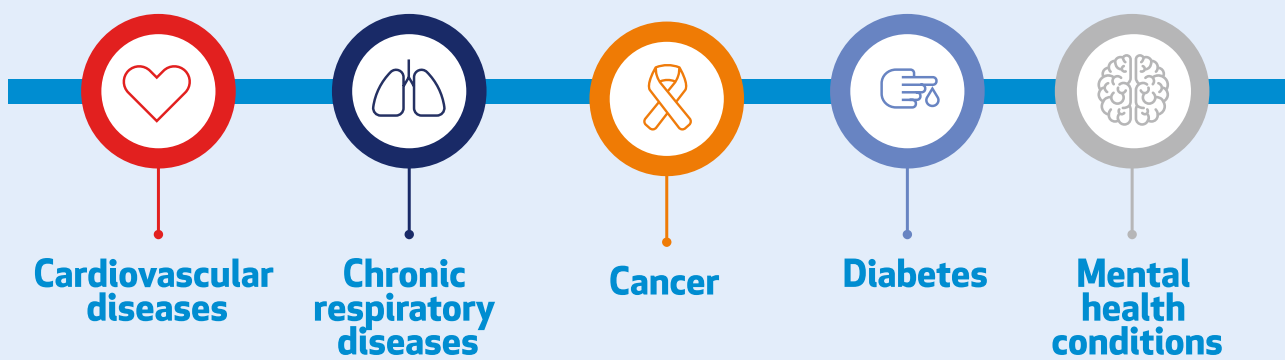
- Strengthening health systems and financing for the prevention and control of NCDs, on each country's path towards achieving universal health coverage, including through sharing evidence-based best practices, scientific knowledge and lessons learned.
- Opportunities and challenges in engaging governments, civil society and the private sector at global, regional and national levels to promote multisectoral partnerships for the prevention and control of NCDs and the promotion of healthy lifestyles.

## Side events

Numerous side events inside the UN and around the city will provide an opportunity for all stakeholders from various sectors to debate issues at the forefront of the NCD fight.

# NCDs AND MENTAL HEALTH: CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

## THE THREAT



### Key Facts

NCDs are responsible for

**71%**  
of all deaths worldwide  
(41 million people)



Each year...

the lives of

**15 million people**  
are cut short due to NCDs

Nearly **800,000**  
people die from suicide

Every **2 seconds**  
someone aged 30 to 70 years  
**dies prematurely** from NCDs



Poorer people are  
disproportionately  
affected by NCDs and  
mental health conditions





## 5 main NCD risks



Unhealthy diet



Tobacco use



Air pollution



Harmful use of alcohol



Physical inactivity

## Call to action



Progress on NCDs is **too slow**

**Greater action** is needed to:

- ✓ Protect people from NCDs
- ✓ Achieve SDGs
- ✓ Promote human rights

Meet SDG3.4 to, by 2030, reduce by 1/3 premature mortality from NCDs and promote mental health and well-being



## THE BENEFITS

Most premature deaths and suffering from NCDs are avoidable

Invest for a healthy future



These interventions can save **8.2 million** lives in poorer countries and generate **US\$350 billion** in economic growth by 2030



Every US\$1 invested to tackle NCDs will have a return of at least US\$7 by **2030**

## WHAT GOVERNMENTS CAN DO TO PROMOTE HEALTH



### Advance universal health coverage



Access to quality services



Access to affordable services



Protection from financial risk



### Implement policies, engage the public



Ensure healthy diets



Make health risks clear



Leverage taxes



Tighten laws and regulations



Generate data for health



Create healthy cities and environments

## WHAT PEOPLE CAN DO TO PROMOTE HEALTH



Follow medical advice



Stay physically active



Get vaccinated



Breastfeed



Tobacco use



Harmful use of alcohol



Consumption of food and drinks high in salt, sugar or unhealthy fats



Air pollution



### Challenges impeding progress

1. lack of political will, commitment, capacity, and action

2. lack of policies and plans for NCDs

3. difficulty in priority-setting

4. impact of economic, commercial, and market factors

5. insufficient technical and operational capacity

6. insufficient (domestic and international) financing to scale up national NCD responses; and

7. lack of accountability

## USEFUL RESOURCES

- 1.** Time to deliver: report of the WHO Independent High-level Commission on Noncommunicable Diseases. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2018. (<http://www.who.int/ncds/management/time-to-deliver/en/>, accessed 10 August 2018).
- 2.** Tackling NCDs. “Best buys” and other recommended interventions for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2017. (<http://www.who.int/ncds/management/best-buys/en/>, accessed 10 August 2018).
- 3.** Saving lives, spending less: a strategic response to noncommunicable diseases. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2018. (<http://www.who.int/ncds/management/ncds-strategic-response/en/>, accessed 10 August 2018).
- 4.** Think piece: why is 2018 a strategically important year for NCDs? (<http://www.who.int/ncds/governance/high-level-commission/why-2018-important-year-for-NCDs.pdf?ua=1>, accessed 10 August 2018).
- 5.** Progress on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases. Report of the Secretary-General. ([http://www.who.int/ncds/governance/high-level-commission/A\\_72\\_662.pdf?ua=1](http://www.who.int/ncds/governance/high-level-commission/A_72_662.pdf?ua=1), accessed 10 August 2018).
- 6.** Global action plan for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases 2013-2020. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2013. (<http://www.who.int/nmh/publications/ncd-action-plan/en/>, accessed 10 August 2018).
- 7.** Noncommunicable Diseases Progress Monitor, 2017. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2017. (<http://www.who.int/nmh/publications/ncd-progress-monitor-2017/en/>, accessed 10 August 2018).
- 8.** Mental health action plan 2013–2020. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2013 ([http://www.who.int/mental\\_health/action\\_plan\\_2013/en/](http://www.who.int/mental_health/action_plan_2013/en/), accessed 10 August 2018).
- 9.** Mental health atlas 2017. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2018. ([http://www.who.int/mental\\_health/evidence/atlas/mental\\_health\\_atlas\\_2017/en/](http://www.who.int/mental_health/evidence/atlas/mental_health_atlas_2017/en/), accessed 10 August 2018).
- 10.** Investing in mental health: evidence for action. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2017. (<http://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/87232>, accessed 10 August 2018).

**1** NO POVERTY



**2** ZERO HUNGER



**3** GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



**4** QUALITY EDUCATION



**5** GENDER EQUALITY




**6** CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



**7** AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



**8** DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



**9** INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



**10** REDUCED INEQUALITIES



**11** SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



**12** RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



**13** CLIMATE ACTION



**14** LIFE BELOW WATER



**15** LIFE ON LAND



**16** PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



**17** PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



